"It consists of a funnel of white iron, ABC, like a monk's hood. This funnel bends and becomes narrower up to C, where a tube begins and descends to D, where it bends round in DIE, and reascends to K, where it terminates. We fill the tube with quicksilver from CDE up to F. Above F up to G we pour some lye water, of which the rising and falling is perceived by some little dots which are marked on the tube from F to G. The wind entering by the funnel AB strikes the quicksilver at C, and presses more or less according to its force. The quicksilver pressed goes down in proportion, and going down from this side of the funnel it rises in the other branch of the machine above F, and raises the lye water which it supports; and this elevation is noticed and calculated by the dots marked on the tube.

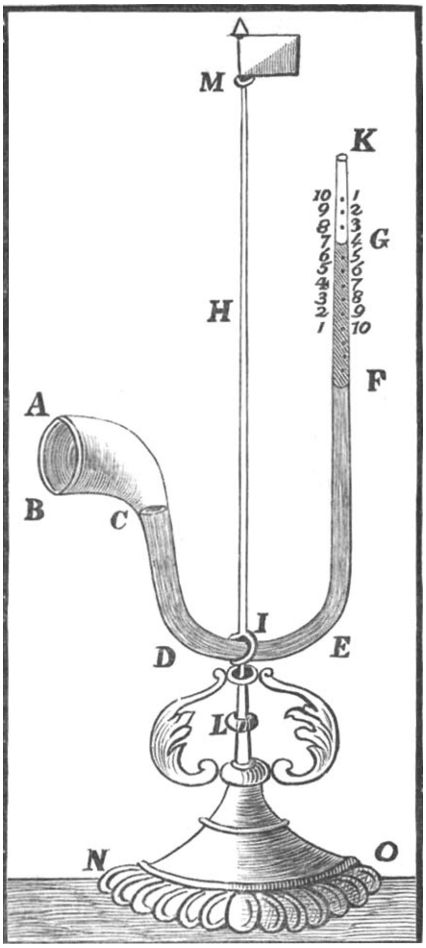

FIG. 2.—Huet's Anemometer.

"And because the instrument may not act if the funnel is not turned towards the wind, it is necessary to adapt a vane M supported by the iron rod MHI. This rod forms a ring at the point I, which encircles and holds firmly the tube. The iron rod below the ring enters a ferrule L, poised on the pedestal LNO, where it turns to the right and left according to the wind which turns the vane, and in turning thus it turns at the same time the whole machine, and holds the funnel always towards the wind."

The instrument, as sketched by the inventor, is extremely toy-like in appearance, and the inevitable result of its first exposure would be its destruction by the very force it was intended to measure. The tube, although encircled by the ring at I, is insufficiently supported, and the vane, M, is not large enough effectually to turn the machine. Lind's anemometer is an improvement on Huet's chiefly in these two particulars—the tubes being brought closely and bound firmly together, and the instrument itself acts as a vane by being set in a spindle. It must, however, be remembered that Huet's invention was never given a trial—in fact, not even made, or these faults would have been easily seen and rectified.

Pierre Daniel Huet, the inventor of this anemometer, was born at Caen on February 8, 1630. He was the author of many works, tutor to the Dauphin (1670), and Bishop of Avranches (1692). He died at Paris on January 26, 1721. The work from which the above description and accompanying sketch are taken is entitled "Huetiana; ou Pensées diverses de M. Huet, Évêque d'Avranches" (Amsterdam, 1723).

W. J. LEWIS.

VIRCHOW TESTIMONIAL FUND.

ON October 13, 1891, Prof. Rudolph Virchow celebrates his seventieth birthday. His pupils and admirers intend to commemorate the occasion by presenting him with a testimonial in recognition of his splendid services to medical science. A large and representative Committee has been formed in Germany with the view of collecting the necessary contributions, but it has been felt that this ought essentially to be an international movement, inasmuch as Prof. Virchow's followers are not of one nation, but of all.

In accordance with this view the undersigned have formed themselves into a Committee, in order to give Prof. Virchow's British admirers the opportunity of testifying to the gratitude which every member of the profession feels towards the man whose work in cellular pathology has so vastly contributed towards the advance of modern medical science, and may fairly be said to have made every member of the profession his pupil.

The form in which the universal feeling of gratitude is to find expression has been decided upon by the original German Committee. A large gold portrait medal is to be presented to Prof. Virchow himself, and bronze replicas of the same to members of his family and to some scientific institutions. The surplus—which, no doubt, will be large—is to be handed over to Prof. Virchow for the furtherance, subject to his decision, of scientific work.

To carry out this project the undersigned cordially invite the co-operation of the profession in the United Kingdom. Subscriptions, which are not to exceed two guineas, may be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, Dr. Lauder Brunton, 10 Stratford Place, London, W., and will be duly acknowledged in the medical journals. Cheques to be made payable to "Virchow Testimonial Fund," and to be crossed.

(Signed) JAMES PAGET, Chairman.
LAUDER BRUNTON, Hon. Treasurer.
FELIX SEMON, } Hon. Secs.
VICTOR HORSLEY, }

List of Committee of Virchow Testimonial Fund.

Henry W. Acland (Oxford), Th. Clifford Allbutt, John Banks (Dublin), W. Mitchell Banks (Liverpool), H. G. Barling (Birmingham), A. Barron, M.B. (Liverpool), J. S. Bristowe, M.D., W. H. Broadbent, Th. Lauder Brunton (Treasurer), Th. Bryant, H. T. Butlin, J. Chiene (Edinburgh), Andrew Clark, J. Coats (Glasgow), S. Coupland, J. Dreschfeld (Manchester), Dyce Duckworth, John Evans, Joseph Fayrer, D. Ferrier, W. H. Flower, M. Foster (Cambridge), W. T. Gairdner (Glasgow), Alfred Garrod, W. S. Greenfield (Edinburgh), F. de Havilland Hall, D. S. Hamilton (Aberdeen), T. Holmes, G. M. Humphry (Cambridge), J. Hutchinson, J. Hughlings Jackson, William Jenner, George Johnson, Joseph Lister,

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William MacCormac, Th. Oliver (Newcastle-on-Tyne), W. M. Ord, Richard Quain, George Paget (Cambridge), James Paget (Chairman), F. W. Pavy, George Porter (Dublin), R. Douglas Powell, J. Russell Reynolds, William Roberts, Ch. S. Roy (Cambridge), T. Burdon Sanderson (Oxford), E. A. Schäfer, S. G. Shattock, John Simon, A. R. Simpson (Edinburgh), E. M. Skerritt (Clifton, Bristol), Th. Grainger Stewart (Edinburgh), William Stokes (Dublin), Octavius Sturges, Th. Pridgin Teale (Leeds), William Turner (Edinburgh), Hermann Weber, Spencer Wells, C. S. Wheelhouse (Leeds), Samuel Wilks, A. H. Young (Manchester).

NOTES.

THE annual general meeting of the Geological Society will be held on Friday, February 20, at 3 p.m., and the Fellows and their friends will dine together at the Hôtel Métropole, Whitehall Place, at 7.30 p.m.

ON Tuesday Mr. C. Parker called attention in the House of Commons to the question of secondary education in Scotland, and moved, "That, for the better organization in Scotland of higher education, it is desirable that there should be grants in aid of it, not only, as at present, to the Universities and to primary schools, but also (as recommended by a Departmental Committee in 1888) to the public secondary schools, on condition of their general efficiency, and of free places being reserved in them for competition among children from the grant-aided primary schools." The motion was seconded by Mr. Parker Smith, and supported by Mr. D. Crawford, Colonel Campbell, Mr. S. Buxton, Mr. Bryce, and others. The Lord Advocate said that there was no conflict of opinion on the subject amongst the various sections of the House. On the question of financial aid, he might say that there was an immediate prospect of further money being available for education in Scotland. When the proper time came the Government would be prepared with a well-considered scheme of secondary education. The House would see that under these circumstances it was undesirable to pledge the Government to the terms of the resolution. This satisfactory assurance led of course to the withdrawal of the motion.

ON Sunday, February 8, the R. Università degli Studi at Naples is to hold a *festa* in honour of Prof. Arcangelo Scacchi, the eminent mineralogist, on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of his professoriate.

THE Essex Field Club, the foundation of which was noted in our columns eleven years ago (vol. xxi. pp. 215, 286, and 474), is about to enter on a new phase of its career. Since 1880, the Club has been carrying on most useful work in the county of Essex, and has deservedly taken rank as one of the most successful field clubs in the country. The publications now comprise some eight volumes of Transactions and Proceedings, together with the *Essex Naturalist*, the present form of the Club's journal. In addition to these publications, which are full of papers of local interest, the Club has also issued two volumes of "Special Memoirs"—the "Report on the East Anglian Earthquake," by Messrs. Meldola and White, and the "Birds of Essex," by Mr. R. M. Christy. Both of these volumes were reviewed in NATURE at the time of their publication. Although the Club has thus been carrying out its original programme for a period of eleven years, supported by a most energetic staff of officers, with Messrs. Meldola, Boulger, Holmes, and Fitch as successive Presidents, and Mr. William Cole as Honorary Secretary throughout the whole period of its existence, there is one branch of the Club's work which has been languishing, and which it is now proposed to take up and push forward with renewed vigour. It has always been present in the minds of the executive that one of the Club's functions was the establishment of a museum illustrating more especially the *local* natural history, geology, and prehistoric archæology of the county, but having also an educational side. Although there are already museums at Colchester, Chelmsford, and Saffron Walden, there is no establishment in the county which can be considered a local museum in the sense which the Club insists upon. To remedy this defect, and to set an example which it is hoped may be followed by other counties, an arrangement has been made between the Essex Field Club and the subscribers to the Essex and Chelmsford Museum, which was submitted to the Club at the eleventh annual general meeting held on Saturday, January 31, in the Museum at Chelmsford, under the presidency of Mr. E. A. Fitch. The formal resolution proposing the amalgamation of the two Societies was put to the meeting by Prof. Meldola, and seconded by Dr. Thresh, the Medical Officer of Health for the county, and carried unanimously. The two Societies will retain the name of the Essex Field Club, and the collections belonging to both will, it is hoped, be sooner or later combined, so as to form the nucleus of a museum in every sense worthy of the reputation of the Club and of the county. The draft scheme, which was submitted for final acceptation on Saturday, was drawn up by Mr. Cole, and had previously been adopted by the Committee of the Chelmsford Museum. An appeal will shortly be made on behalf of the amalgamated Societies for subscriptions from the public, and especially from those interested in the welfare of the county either as residents, as agriculturists, or as being concerned in its maritime industries. The funds thus raised are to be devoted to the erection and equipment of a museum building in Chelmsford, which is regarded as the most suitable locality for a county institution. Another scheme for extending the work of the Essex Field Club, in the direction of technical education, in accordance with the Local Taxation Act of 1890, was submitted formally to the Essex County Council on Monday last.

WE regret to announce the death of Dr. Karl Weihrauch, Director of the Meteorological Observatory of Dorpat, which occurred on January 19, in the fiftieth year of his age. As long ago as 1871 he was associated with Dr. Arthur von Oettingen in the management of that establishment, of which since 1876 he has had sole charge. The papers he has published have mainly had reference to the mathematical treatment of meteorological data.

M. ÉMILE REYNIER, well-known as an authority on electrical science, died of pneumonia on January 20, at the age of thirty-nine.

PARTICULARS have reached us of the death on October 31, 1890, of Mr. Cosmo Innes Burton, F.R.S.E., the first Professor of Chemistry in the Technical Institute recently founded by the English merchants in Shanghai. Mr. Burton, who was only in his twenty-eighth year, was well known in this country as an enthusiastic student of chemistry, well skilled in organic research, and exceptionally successful in University Extension lecturing. He was the youngest son of the late Dr. Hill Burton, Historiographer-Royal for Scotland, and inherited much of the versatility, originality, and conscientious laboriousness which distinguished his father. After studying at the Universities of Edinburgh, Munich, and Paris, he acted for a time as Research Assistant to Prof. Japp, at South Kensington, the record of his work being published in several papers. Returning to Edinburgh, he pursued private research and Extension lecturing until the appointment in China was offered to him last summer. He proceeded to Shanghai with his newly-married wife, and had just completed arrangements for commencing a course of lectures when his promising career of usefulness to

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